

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2008 - SB 2780

February 28, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a Class E felony offense of communicating a threat to commit an act of violence on school property or at a school-related activity. Creates a Class A misdemeanor offense of knowing failure to report a threat of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity. Authorizes a sentencing court to require a person sentenced for either offense to pay restitution, including costs and damages, resulting from a disruption of normal activity.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$37,200 Incarceration*

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation will result in one communicating a threat concerning a school admission every year.
- Population growth and recidivism will not impact these admissions.
- The average time served for a Class E felony is 1.35 years.
- According to the DOC, the average operating cost per offender per day for calendar year 2020 is \$75.52.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-4-210, one offender will be admitted every year serving an additional 493.09 days (1.35×365.25). The annualized increase in state incarceration expenditures is estimated to be \$37,238 ($\$75.52 \times 493.09 \times 1$).
- Any cost to local jail systems resulting from possible convictions under this legislation is estimated to be not significant.
- There will not be a sufficient change in the number of misdemeanor prosecutions for the state or local government to experience any significant change in revenue or expenditures.
- Any impact to the court system is estimated to be not significant.
- Any impact to local school systems resulting from an award of restitution is estimated to be not significant.

*Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 9-4-210, requires that: *For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated from recurring revenues shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/amj